

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN BOB DEPRATU**, on January 30, 2003 at 9:03 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Bob DePratu, Chairman (R)  
Sen. Bob Story Jr., Vice Chairman (R)  
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)  
Sen. John C. Bohlinger (R)  
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)  
Sen. Jim Elliott (D)  
Sen. Bill Glaser (R)  
Sen. Dan Harrington (D)  
Sen. Walter McNutt (R)  
Sen. Mike Taylor (R)  
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch  
Shirley Herrin, Committee Secretary

**Please Note:**

**Video-taped Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 256, 1/24/2003  
Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON SB 256**

**Sponsor:** SENATOR JON ELLINGSON, SD 33, Missoula

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

9:04 SENATOR ELLINGSON opened on SB 256 - "Revise property taxation of class eight business equipment".  
**EXHIBIT (tas20a01)** He handed out a packet of information  
**EXHIBIT (tas20a02)**.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

9:17 Don Judge, Teamsters Local 190  
 0:19 Gene Fenderson, MT Progressive Labor Caucus  
 9:25 Betty Whiting, MT Association of Churches  
 9:28 Linda Gryczan, MT Women's Lobby  
 9:30 Mary Caffero, Montana Fair Share **EXHIBIT (tas20a03)**  
 9:34 Maria Jimenez, WEEL

**Opponents' Testimony:**

9:35 George Bennett, MT Bankers Association  
**EXHIBIT (tas20a04)**  
 9:39 Scott Brown, ASM  
 9:44 Kent Jones, Plum Creek Timber Co.  
 9:47 Jeff Clausen, F. H. Stoltze, Columbia Falls  
 9:49 Mary Whittinghill, MT Taxpayers Assoc., also submitted written testimony from Ken Colyer **EXHIBIT (tas20a05)**  
 9:53 Gail Abercrombie, Exec. Dir., MT Petroleum Assoc.  
 9:56 Tom Figarelle, Forward Montana  
 9:57 Webb Brown, Billings Area Chamber of Commerce  
 10:02 Riley Johnson, Nat'l. Federation of Ind. Businesses  
 10:03 Cathy Burwell, Pres. & CEO, Helena Chamber of Commerce  
 10:04 Cary Hegreberg, MT Contractors Asso.  
 10:05 Mike Strand, CEO, MT Ind. Telecommunications System  
 10:05.5 Margaret Morgan, MT Ind. Electrical Contractors  
 10:06 Bill Stevens, MT Food Distributors Assoc.  
 10:07 Jim Mockler, MT Coal Council  
 10:08 Tom Harrison, Spring Creek Coal  
 10:10 Don Allen, WETA

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:13 SENATOR TOOLE questioned Cathy Burwell  
 10:15 SENATOR BOHLINGER questioned Scott Brown  
 10:16 SENATOR BOHLINGER questioned SENATOR ELLINGSON  
 10:23 SENATOR BOHLINGER questioned Gail Abercrombie  
 10:26 SENATOR HARRINGTON questioned SENATOR ELLINGSON  
 10:27 SENATOR HARRINGTON questioned Mary Whittinghill  
 10:32 SENATOR STORY questioned SENATOR ELLINGSON  
 10:33 SENATOR TAYLOR questioned Linda Gryczan

10:35 SENATOR TAYLOR questioned Don Judge  
10:37 SENATOR TAYLOR questioned SENATOR ELLINGSON  
10:47 SENATOR ELLIOTT questioned Don Judge  
10:48 SENATOR ELLIOTT questioned Scott Brown  
10:50 SENATOR ELLIOTT questioned George Bennett  
10:55 SENATOR ELLIOTT questioned Webb Brown  
11:00 SENATOR TOOLE questioned Kent Jones  
11:01 SENATOR TOOLE questioned Scott Brown  
11:02 SENATOR TOOLE questioned Mary Whittinghill  
11:05 SENATOR TOOLE questioned Ellingson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

11:06 SENATOR ELLINGSON closed on SB 256.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:11 A.M.

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SEN. BOB DEPRATU, Chairman

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SHIRLEY HERRIN, Secretary

BD/SH

**EXHIBIT (tas20aad)**